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EXAMINER	
SHEPARD, JUSTIN E	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/066,420	MARTIN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Justin E. Shepard	2623	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5/6/02.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claims 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, and 16 are objected to because of the following informalities: The preambles of the independent claims these claims depend from do not include the term "synchronized" in their preambles. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-4, 12, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Washizuka in view of Brandon.

Referring to claim 1, Washizuka discloses a system for broadcasting audio and visual information (column 2, lines 28-36 and 50-56; figure 2, parts 2 and 48) comprising:

at least one audio reproduction device for broadcasting audio messages (column 9, lines 9-15);

a first computer means (figure 2, part 8) for recording audio (column 7, lines 19-22 and 34-36) and visual message components (column 5, lines 2-6 and 22-39; column 2, lines 46-51) and storing the message components as a plurality of digital computer

files (column 2, lines 56-67), said first computer means generating a first signal representative of an audio message and transmitting the first signal to said at least one audio reproduction device (column 9, lines 9-15), said first computer means further generating a second signal representative of a visual message (column 2, lines 46-51).

Washizuka does not disclose a system with at least one visual display device for displaying visual messages; and

a second computer means electrically connected to said at least one visual display device and said first computer means, said second computer means receiving the second signal representative of a visual message from said first computer means and generating and transmitting a corresponding electrical signal representative thereof to said at least one video display device.

In an analogous art, Brandon teaches a system with at least one visual display device for displaying visual messages (column 5, lines 7-17; column 7, lines 62-67); and

a second computer means electrically connected to said at least one visual display device and said first computer means (figure 1, parts 15 and 20), said second computer means receiving the second signal representative of a visual message from said first computer means and generating and transmitting a corresponding electrical signal representative thereof to said at least one video display device (column 5, lines 7-17; column 7, lines 62-67).

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to add the text output taught by Brandon to the system disclosed by Washizuka. The motivation would have been to enable the user to view as well as hear the

translation of the inputted text, which would enable the user to make sure the correctness of the translation.

Referring to claim 2, Washizuka discloses a system for broadcasting audio and visual information as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a communications bus wherein said at least one audio reproduction device, said at least one visual display device, said first computer means and said second computer means each further have a communications port connected to said communications bus for transmission of information thereon (figure 2).

Referring to claim 3, Washizuka discloses a system for broadcasting audio and visual information as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a microphone station (figure 2, part 47) having a keypad for generating alphanumeric characters (figure 2, part 7; figure 1), a visual display for viewing the alphanumeric characters (figure 1), and an output for transmitting the alphanumeric characters connected to an input of said first computer means (figure 2, part 2).

Referring to claim 4, Washizuka discloses a system for broadcasting audio and visual information as claimed in claim 3 wherein the alphanumeric characters comprise a pre-defined message type to be broadcast and data relevant thereto (column 2, lines 37-40)

Referring to claim 12, Washizuka discloses a method for broadcasting audio and visual information (column 2, lines 28-36 and 50-56; figure 2, parts 2 and 48) comprising the steps of:

providing a computer means for recording audio message components input from a sound transducer (column 2, lines 51-56; column 7, lines 19-22 and 34-36) and corresponding visual message components input from a user interface (figure 1), and storing said message components in said information database (column 2, lines 65-67);

assembling messages for broadcast by ordering said audio message components and said visual message components in said information database in a predetermined sequence (column 4, lines 25-33; column 7, lines 19-22, 34-36, and 41-44);

providing at least one audio reproduction device for broadcasting audio messages (column 9, lines 9-15);

broadcasting said audio messages over said at least one audio reproduction device (column 9, lines 9-15).

Washizuka does not disclose a method for providing at least one visual display device for broadcasting visual messages; and broadcasting said visual messages over said at least one visual display device.

In an analogous art, Brandon teaches a method for providing at least one visual display device for broadcasting visual messages; and broadcasting said visual messages over said at least one visual display device (column 5, lines 7-17; column 7, lines 62-67).

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to add the text output taught by Brandon to the system disclosed by Washizuka. The motivation would have been to enable the user to view as well as hear the translation of the inputted text, which would enable the user to make sure the correctness of the translation.

Referring to claim 15, Washizuka discloses a method for broadcasting audio and visual information as claimed in claim 12 wherein the step of assembling messages for broadcast further comprises the steps of:

assigning a unique identification tag to each audio message component and each visual message component (column 2, lines 65-67; column 5, lines 2-6; column 7, lines 19-22 and 41-44);

and compiling a list of the audio message components and visual message components by unique identification tag (column 4, lines 25-33).

Claims 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Washizuka in view of Brandon as applied to the claims above, and further in view of Gibbon.

Referring to claim 5, Washizuka discloses a system for broadcasting audio and visual information as claimed in claim 2 further comprising a microphone station (column 2, lines 51-56) having a keypad for generating alphanumeric characters (figure 1), a visual display for viewing the alphanumeric characters (figure 2, part 2), and a

communication port connected to said communications bus for transmitting the alphanumeric characters to said first computer means (figure 2, parts 7 and 8).

Washizuka and Brandon do not disclose a system for broadcasting synchronized audio and video information.

In an analogous art, Gibbon teaches a system for broadcasting synchronized audio and video information (column 14, lines 15-31).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to add the synchronized scrolling text and audio taught by Gibbon to the system disclosed by Washizuka and Brandon. The motivation would have been to enable better data retention by the user by enabling them to read and hear the information simultaneously.

Claim 7 is rejected on the same grounds as claims 1, 3, and 5.

Referring to claim 8, Washizuka discloses a system for broadcasting audio and visual information as claimed in claim 1 further comprising at least one information database stored in said first computer means, said information database comprising a plurality of message component variables (figure 2, parts 9, 10 and 11; column 2, lines 65-67).

Washizuka and Brandon do not disclose a system for broadcasting synchronized audio and video information.

In an analogous art, Gibbon teaches a system for broadcasting synchronized audio and video information (column 14, lines 15-31).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to add the synchronized scrolling text and audio taught by Gibbon to the system disclosed by Washizuka and Brandon. The motivation would have been to enable better data retention by the user by enabling them to read and hear the information simultaneously.

Referring to claim 10, Washizuka discloses a system for broadcasting audio and video messages as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a first computer means having a keyboard and a microphone for recording text and audio message components to be stored in said first computer means (figure 2).

Washizuka does not disclose a system comprising a graphical user interface.

In an analogous art, Brandon teaches a system comprising a graphical user interface (column 5, lines 46-53).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to add the GUI taught by Brandon to the system disclosed by Washizuka. The motivation would have been to enable the user to have a visual method for modifying the translations, which would permit a simpler interface for replacing words.

Washizuka and Brandon do not disclose a system for broadcasting synchronized audio and video information.

In an analogous art, Gibbon teaches a system for broadcasting synchronized audio and video information (column 14, lines 15-31).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to add the synchronized scrolling text and audio taught by Gibbon to the system disclosed by Washizuka and Brandon. The motivation would have been to enable better data retention by the user by enabling them to read and hear the information simultaneously.

Claim 11 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 10.

Claims 13 and 16 are rejected on the same grounds as claim 5.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Washizuka and Brandon as applied to claim 5 above, and further in view of Maehiro.

Referring to claim 6, Washizuka and Brandon do not disclose a system for broadcasting audio and visual information as claimed in claim 5 wherein the alphanumeric characters comprise a pre-defined message type to be broadcast and data relevant thereto.

In an analogous art, Maehiro teaches a system for broadcasting audio and visual information as claimed in claim 5 wherein the alphanumeric characters comprise a pre-defined message type to be broadcast and data relevant thereto (paragraph 10).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to add the pre-defined messages Maehiro to the system disclosed by Washizuka and Brandon. The motivation would have been to provide to the user pre-defined message inputs to enable quicker inputting.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Washizuka and Brandon as applied to claim 2 above, and further in view of Gibbon and Zimmerman.

Referring to claim 9, Washizuka discloses a system for broadcasting audio and video messages as claimed in claim 2 further comprising at least one information database stored in a database having a communications port connected to said communications bus, said information database comprising a plurality of message component variables (figure 2).

Washizuka and Brandon do not disclose a system for broadcasting synchronized audio and video information.

In an analogous art, Gibbon teaches a system for broadcasting synchronized audio and video information (column 14, lines 15-31).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to add the synchronized scrolling text and audio taught by Gibbon to the system disclosed by Washizuka and Brandon. The motivation would have been to enable better data retention by the user by enabling them to read and hear the information simultaneously.

Washizuka, Brandon and Gibbon do not disclose a system wherein the database is a server.

In an analogous art, Zimmerman teaches a system wherein the database is a server (paragraph 60).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to add the database server taught by Zimmerman to the system disclosed by Washizuka, Brandon and Gibbon. The motivation would have been to have one centralized location for the information that would be accessible by multiple units, thereby reducing the amount of localized storage.

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Washizuka, Brandon and Gibbon as applied to claim 13 above, and further in view of Maehiro.

Referring to claim 14, Washizuka, Brandon and Gibbon do not disclose a method for broadcasting synchronized audio and visual information as claimed in claim 13 further comprising the steps of:

supplying a message type code from said user interface to said computer means, said message type code representative of a predetermined message sequence to be broadcast; and supplying a plurality of message variables relevant to the message sequence to be broadcast.

In an analogous art, Maehiro teaches a method for broadcasting synchronized audio and visual information as claimed in claim 13 further comprising the steps of:

supplying a message type code from said user interface to said computer means, said message type code representative of a predetermined message sequence to be broadcast; and supplying a plurality of message variables relevant to the message sequence to be broadcast (paragraph 10).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to add the pre-defined messages Maehiro to the system disclosed by Washizuka and Brandon. The motivation would have been to provide to the user pre-defined message inputs to enable quicker inputting.

Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Washizuka and Brandon as applied to claim 12 above, and further in view of Weber.

Referring to claim 17, Washizuka and Brandon do not disclose a method for broadcasting audio and visual information as claimed in claim 12 wherein said step of broadcasting said audio and visual messages over said at least one audio reproduction device and said at least one visual display device further includes selecting a predetermined broadcast zone to which said audio and visual messages are broadcast.

In an analogous art, Weber teaches a said step of broadcasting said audio and visual messages over said at least one audio reproduction device and said at least one visual display device further includes selecting a predetermined broadcast zone to which said audio and visual messages are broadcast (column 2, lines 46-63).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to add the zone messaging taught by Weber to the system disclosed by Washizuka and Brandon. The motivation would have been to enable the message To only be broadcast in areas where the information would be useful.

Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Washizuka, Brandon and Gibbon as applied to claim 13 above, and further in view of Weber.

Claim 18 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 17.

Claims 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Washizuka, Brandon, Gibbon and Miller.

Referring to claim 19, Washizuka discloses a method for broadcasting audio and visual information comprising the steps of:

providing a computer means for recording audio message components input from a sound transducer and corresponding visual message components input from a user interface, and storing said message components in said information database (figures 1 and 2; column 2, lines 51-56);

assembling messages for broadcast by ordering said audio message components and said visual message components in said information database in a predetermined sequence (column 9, lines 9-15);

providing at least one audio reproduction device for broadcasting audio messages (figure 2);

broadcasting said audio messages over said at least one audio reproduction device (figure 2).

Washizuka does not disclose a method for providing at least one visual display device for broadcasting visual messages;

broadcasting said visual messages over said at least one visual display device.

In an analogous art, Brandon teaches a method for providing at least one visual display device for broadcasting visual messages;

broadcasting said visual messages over said at least one visual display device (column 5, lines 7-17; column 7, lines 62-67).

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to add the text output taught by Brandon to the system disclosed by Washizuka. The motivation would have been to enable the user to view as well as hear the translation of the inputted text, which would enable the user to make sure the correctness of the translation.

Washizuka and Brandon do not disclose a method for calculating a duration for each audio message component;

embedding the time duration of each audio message component into the corresponding visual message component;

synchronizing the broadcast of said visual messages with said audio messages by calculating a scroll rate for said visual messages on said at least one visual display device using the embedded time duration of each corresponding audio message component.

In an analogous art, Gibbon teaches a method for synchronizing the broadcast of said visual messages with said audio messages by calculating a scroll rate for said visual messages on said at least one visual display device using the embedded time duration of each corresponding audio message component (column 14, lines 15-31).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to add the synchronized scrolling text and audio taught by Gibbon to the system disclosed by Washizuka and Brandon. The motivation would have been to enable better data retention by the user by enabling them to read and hear the information simultaneously.

Washizuka, Brandon and Gibbon do not disclose a method for calculating a duration for each audio message component;

embedding the time duration of each audio message component into the corresponding visual message component.

In an analogous art, Miller teaches a method for calculating a duration for each audio message component;

embedding the time duration of each audio message component into the corresponding visual message component (column 6, lines 39-53).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to add the synchronized timing taught by Miller to the system disclosed by Washizuka, Brandon and Gibbon. The motivation would have been to enable better data retention by the user by enabling them to read and hear the information simultaneously by creating timing information that enables the synchronization.

Claim 20 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 15.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Justin E. Shepard whose telephone number is (571) 272-5967. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Kelley can be reached on (571) 272-7331. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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